

IFW



PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 7552.0035

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
)  
Claudio TONELLI et al. ) Group Art Unit: 3761  
)  
Serial No.: 10/505,150 ) Examiner: Leslie R. Deak  
)  
Filed: August 20, 2004 ) Confirmation No.: 5696  
)  
For: METHOD OF MONITORING THE )  
OPERATIONALITY OF A FLOW )  
CUT-OFF MEMBER AND FLOW )  
ARRESTING SYSTEM, FOR AN )  
EXTRACORPOREAL FLUID )  
CIRCUIT )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

In a restriction requirement dated July 18, 2007, the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between

- Group I - Claims 42-55, allegedly drawn to a method of monitoring the operability of a fluid flow cutoff member;
- Group II - Claims 56-78, allegedly drawn to a device for monitoring the operability of a fluid flow cutoff member; or
- Group III - Claims 79-83, allegedly drawn to a software program for monitoring the operability of a fluid flow cutoff member.

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's characterization of the invention made in the Office Action dated July 18, 2007, however, in order to expedite prosecution of this application, Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute Group I,

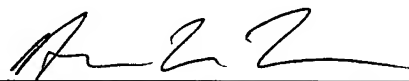
claims 42-55, allegedly drawn to a method of monitoring the operationality of a fluid flow cutoff member.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: August 2, 2007

By:   
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